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HOW TO CLEAN WALLS, CEILINGS, WOODWORK

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- Clean walls and ceilings make rooms look lighter and brighter.
- Furniture looks better against clean walls.
- Keep your walls and woodwork clean. It's much easier to wash off a little dirt than to wait and have to scrub off a lot.

DUST FIRST

Brush down all the cobwebs and dust. There are three ways you can do this.

1. Use a *clean* dust mop. Shake the mop often to get rid of loose dust and dirt.

—or—

2. Wrap a soft cloth around a broom and tie it on.

—or—

3. Dust with the brush attachment on your vacuum cleaner.

Dust the ceiling first, beginning in one corner. (Fig. 1) Then dust the walls from top to bottom.

MAKE SURE THE WALL CAN BE WASHED

Test the wallpaper, paint, or other wall finish to be sure it's washable. Choose a spot on the wall that won't show, behind a piece of furniture. (Fig. 2)

Wash the spot with clean sudsy cloth or sponge. If the finish doesn't come off or change color, go ahead and wash the walls.

If the spot fades, runs, or peels, you will need to decide whether to paint or wallpaper, or leave the walls as they are. If they are really grey and dirty, it is often a much greater improvement to paint over the surface with a roller and waterbase paint. But the surface still has to be cleaned before painting.

GET READY TO WASH

Fill two pails or pans with warm water. Add soap or detergent to one. Make suds that "stand up." The second container holds rinse water.

Set pails on newspapers to keep floors from getting water spotted.

WASH THE CEILING FIRST

Cover the furniture and floor. An old plastic tablecloth or newspapers will do. (Fig 3)

Wash the ceiling with a scrub brush, sponge, or sponge mop with a handle.

Use a sturdy stepladder or step-stool to stand on. Begin in one corner. Reach as far as you

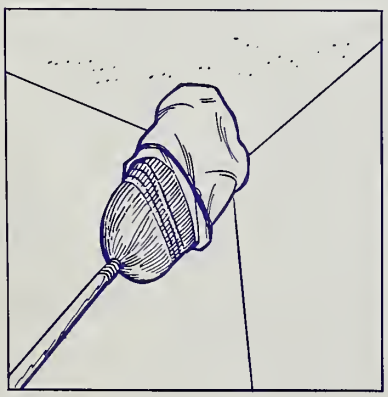

Fig. 1

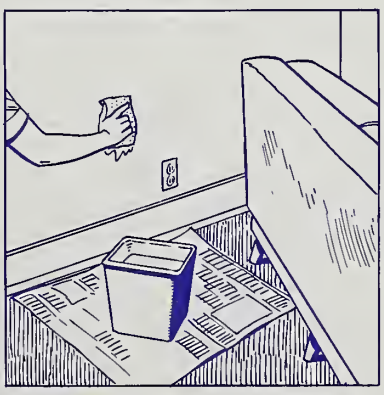

Fig. 2

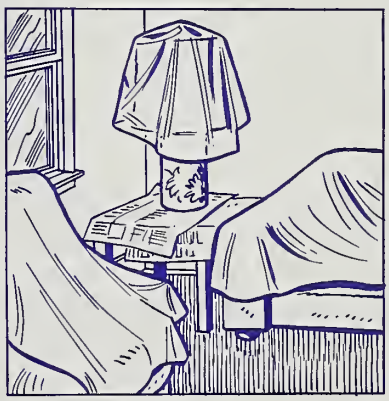

Fig. 3

Fig. 4

Fig. 5

can *safely*. (Fig. 4) When one part of the ceiling is clean, rinse with a sponge wrung out of clean rinse water.

Overlap the clean part of the ceiling when you begin to wash the next part. This prevents marks or rings.

WASH PAINTED OR WALLPAPERED WALLS

Start at the bottom and work up to the ceiling. Water running down over dirty walls leaves streaks.

Wash the walls with a sponge or cloth.

Use thick suds and wash as far as you can reach.

When the part of the wall you are washing looks clean, rinse it with a sponge or cloth wrung out of clean rinse water.

Wipe it with a dry cloth for faster drying.

Wash quickly. Wash all of the wall, one part at a time.

Use a stepladder or step-stool to reach high places.

When the water gets dirty, throw it out. Start again with clean sudsy water.

If wallpaper is very dirty, you may need to wash it twice, rather than rub too hard to get off the dirt.

WASH THE WOODWORK

Start with the baseboard.

- Use thick detergent suds on a sponge or cloth.
- Rinse with a clean sponge or cloth wrung out of warm clean rinse water.
- Wipe dry.

Clean the rest of the woodwork, doors, and window frames the same way you washed the baseboards. Be sure to wash from bottom to top.

To clean very dirty painted woodwork, add about ¼ cup household ammonia to 1 gallon of sudsy wash water. This helps cut the grease and grime as you clean. Wear rubber gloves when using ammonia. It is strong and can hurt your skin.

Always use a sturdy stepladder or step-stool to reach high places. (Fig. 5) It's OK to stand on a sturdy chair, but *never* put a box or books on a chair to make it higher.

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